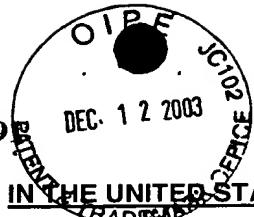


CUSTOMER NO.: 020998

PATENT  
Docket No. PD-200114

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: :  
 DONALD C. D. CHANG ET AL.  
 Serial No. 09/655,498  
 Filed: September 5, 2000  
 FOR: CONCURRENT COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN A  
 USER TERMINAL AND MULTIPLE STRATOSPHERIC  
 TRANSPONDER PLATFORMS

Date: December 12, 2003  
 Group Art Unit: 2685  
 Examiner: Vuong, Quoc  
 Confirmation No. 8312

RECEIVED

DEC 17 2003

## TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING RCE

Technology Center 2600

Mail Stop RCE  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

Applicant petitions for an extension of time for \_\_\_\_\_ months(s) to respond to the Office Action dated \_\_\_\_\_. If an additional extension of time is required, please consider this a petition therefor.

An extension for \_\_\_\_\_ months(s) has already been secured; the fee paid therefor of \_\_\_\_\_ is deducted from the total fee due for the total months of extension now requested.  Extension fee due with this request \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant believes that no extension of time is required to respond to the Office Action dated September 22, 2003. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition for extension of time.

No additional fee for claims is required.

The fee for claims has been calculated as shown below:

CLAIMS AS AMENDED							
CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR		PRESENT		ADDITIONAL FEE	
				EXTRA	RATE		
TOTAL CLAIMS	80	minus	80*	=	0	x	\$ 18.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	15	minus	15**	=	0	x	\$ 86.00
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS					0	x	\$ 290.00
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT:							\$ 0.00

Charge \$ 0.00 to Deposit Account No. 50-0383 of Hughes Electronics Corporation, El Segundo, California. Please charge any additional fees for claims or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0383. If any additional extension fee is required, please charge to Deposit Account No. 50-0383. **This form is submitted in triplicate.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Vijayalakshmi D. Duraiswamy*  
 Vijayalakshmi D. Duraiswamy, Registration No.: 31,505

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Also enclosed: IDS w/fee, PTO-1449 & copies of references

HUGHES ELECTRONICS CORPORATION

RE/R11/A109

PO Box 956, El Segundo, CA 90245-0956

Telephone: 310-964-0733

Date: December 12, 2003

\* If less than 20, insert 20

\*\* If less than 3, insert 3

## Certification under 37 CFR 1.10

EH187376254US

December 12, 2003

EXPRESS MAIL mailing number

Date of Deposit

I hereby certify that the correspondence identified above is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Eileen T. Hadeler

*Eileen T. Hadeler*  
 (Signature of person mailing correspondence)

(Typed or printed name of person mailing correspondence)